AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancel)

2. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the sensitivity of a diagnostic test for diagnosing

Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection in a human, wherein said diagnostic test comprises contacting T cells from said human with *a Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen which is not Rv3879c, and determining whether any of the said T-cells recognise said antigen; said method additionally comprising

(i) contacting T-cells from said human with one or more of

(a) a peptide having the sequence of ~~shown in~~ SEQ ID NO: 1;

(b) a peptide ~~having or comprising~~ consisting of the sequence of at least 8 consecutive amino acids of the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; or

(c) a peptide ~~having or comprising~~ consisting of a sequence which is capable of binding to a T-cell receptor which recognises a peptide as defined in (a) or (b); and

(ii) determining whether any of the said T-cells recognise said peptide,

wherein the method is ~~steps (i) and (ii) are~~ optionally carried out *in vitro*.

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein step (i) further comprises contacting said T-cells with one or more further *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* T-cell antigen(s) or with an analogue(s) of said antigen(s) which is capable of binding to a T-cell receptor which recognises said antigen(s).

4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein said one or more further ~~T cell~~ *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigens include antigens encoded by the RD-1 or RD-2 region, which antigens are preferably ESAT-6 and/or CFP10; or fragments thereof which are at least 8 amino acids long.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein said ~~one or more further T cell~~ *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen ~~antigens~~ which is not Rv3879c is selected from ~~include~~ Rv3873, Rv3878 or Rv1989c; or fragments thereof which are

at least 8 amino acids long.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein step (i) comprises contacting said sample of T-cells with two or more different peptides, each having the sequence of at least 8 consecutive amino acids of the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.

7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein peptides from, or analogues of, at least five different antigens are contacted with the T cells.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein one or more of the peptides
(i) represented by SEQ ID NO's 2 to 18, or
(ii) which bind to a T-cell which recognise (i), are contacted with the T cells.

9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein recognition of said peptide by said T-cells is determined by detecting the secretion of a cytokine from the T-cells.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the cytokine is IFN-γ.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein said cytokine is detected by allowing said cytokine to bind to an immobilised antibody specific to said cytokine and detecting the presence of the antibody/cytokine complex.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said T-cells are freshly isolated *ex vivo* cells.

13. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said T-cells have been cultured *in vitro*.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A diagnostic composition comprising a peptide as defined in step (a), (b) or (c) of claim ~~1~~ 2 and ~~optionally~~ one or more further *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* T-cell antigens selected from (i) Rv3873 and Rv1989c or a fragment thereof which is at least 8 amino acids long, or (ii) an analogue of (i) which binds to a T-cell which recognises (i).

16. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 15 further comprising one or more *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* ~~wherein said one or more further T-cell~~ antigens are selected from

(i) ESAT-6, CFP10, ~~Rv3873,~~ and Rv3878, ~~Rv1989c~~ or fragment of any thereof which is at least 8 amino acids long; or

(ii) an analogue of (i) which binds to a T-cell which recognises (i).

17. (Currently amended) A kit for diagnosing *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection or exposure in a human, comprising a composition as defined in claim 15 ~~one or more peptides as defined in claim 1~~, and optionally a means for detecting recognition of a peptide by T-cells.

18. (Original) A kit according to claim 17, wherein said means for detecting recognition of a peptide by T-cells comprises an antibody to a cytokine.

19. (Original) A kit according to claim 18, wherein said antibody is immobilised on a solid support and wherein said kit optionally comprises a means to detect an antibody/cytokine complex.

20. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 18, wherein said cytokine is IFN-γ.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of ascertaining the stage of a *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection in a human comprising determining whether there is a differential T cell response to different *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigens in the human.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 21 wherein T cell responses to one or more

of Rv3879c, ESAT-6, CFP10, Rv3873, Rv3878, Rv1989c are measured.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21 which is carried out to

(i) to determine whether the infection is recent or longstanding, or

(ii) to determine whether the human is latently infected or has disease, or

(iii) to monitor the effect of treatment.